

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS**

Attached are amendments to drawing sheets 2, 10, 11, and 12. Sheets 1 and 3-9 remain unchanged.

The attached sheet 2 of 12 includes changes to Figure 1B. These changes are the omission of the reference numbers 130, 132, 134A, and 134B and the omission of the lead lines for reference numbers 132, 134A, and 134B.

The attached sheet 10 of 12 includes changes to Figure 6A. These changes are the omission of the reference numbers 610 and 612 and the omission of the lead line to reference number 612.

The attached sheet 11 of 12 includes changes to Figure 6B. These changes are the omission of the reference numbers 710, 712, and 716 and the omission of the lead line to reference number 712.

The attached sheet 12 of 12 includes changes to Figure 6C. These changes are the omission of the reference numbers 810, 812, and 816 and the omission of the lead lines to reference numbers 812 and 816.

Attachments: Replacement sheets for sheets 2, 10, 11, and 12

Annotated sheets showing changes for sheets 2, 10, 11 and 12

## REMARKS

This amendment is filed in response to the Office Action mailed January 11, 2005. Claims 1-27 are currently pending. The Examiner rejected claims 1-8, 14, 19-21, and 24-27 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and claims 9-13, 15-17, and 22-23 under 35 U.S.C. §103. The Examiner objected to claim 18 as depending from a rejected base claim. The Examiner also objected to the specification for failing to refer to reference numbers in the figures. The Examiners objections and rejections will be addressed in turn.

The figures have been amended to eliminate the unnecessary reference numbers. The applicants believe that such amendment renders the specification unobjectionable.

For the reasons set forth below, the applicants believe that the claims from which claim 18 depends are allowable; therefore, the applicants believe that claim 18 is allowable as written.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 7, 8, 14, 19-21, and 24-27 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent Serial Number 6,404,394 (“Hill”). Claim 1 includes the limitation “wherein said planar conductor is self-supporting”. Claims 7, 8, 14, and 19-21 depend from claim 1 and therefore include such limitation as well. Claim 24 includes an identical limitation and claims 25-27 depend from it and therefore include such limitation as well. The Examiner cited to Figure 2 of Hill as disclosing such limitation. Figure 2, however, does not disclose a self-supporting planar conductor, but rather a dielectric 40 that supports planar conductors 46 and 48 (Hill, Figure 2). Therefore, Hill fails to suggest or disclose any of the claims of the present invention.

Moreover, with respect to claim 7, Hill fails to suggest or disclose “wherein the antenna further comprises a planar meander”. Figure 2 of Hill discloses a slot antenna or

modified “F” antenna. Claim 8 depends from claim 7 and therefore is allowable for the same reason.

With respect to claim 14, the applicants claim “wherein the antenna is vertically polarized”. Hill discloses “using vertical and horizontal polarization signals”. Hill does not disclose using a purely vertical polarization in any embodiment of his invention, which the inventors have found to be beneficial in some circumstances. See specification, p. 12, first paragraph.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent Serial Number 6,806,831 (“Johansson et al.”). Claim 1 includes the limitation “wherein said planar conductor is self-supporting”. Claims 2-6 depend from claim 1 and therefore include such limitation as well.

The Examiner cited Figure 2 of Johansson et al. as illustrating a self-supporting planar conductor, with element 210 or 240 being the planar conductor; however, Figure 2 discloses an antenna composed of a plurality of planar conductors that are connected and supported by vertical bands. None of the planar conductors in that figure are self-supporting.

The Examiner rejected claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over Hill in light of U.S. Patent Serial Number 5,767,808 (“Robbins et al.”). Claim 9 depends indirectly from claim 1 and therefore includes the limitation “wherein said planar conductor is self-supporting”. Claim 9 also depends indirectly from claim 7, which includes the limitation “wherein the antenna further comprises a planar meander”. Neither Hill nor Robbins et al. discloses or suggests either of such limitations.

The Examiner rejected claims 10-12 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over Hill in view of Robbins et al. and further in view of either U.S. Patent Serial Number 6,417,816 (“Sadler et al.”) or U.S. Patent Application Publication Number 2003/0071757 (“Yamaki”). Claims 10-12 depend indirectly from claim 1 and therefore include the limitation “wherein said planar conductor is self-supporting”. Claims 10-12 also depend indirectly from claim 7, which includes the limitation “wherein the antenna further comprises a planar meander”. None of Hill, Robbins et al., Sadler et al., and Yamaki disclose or suggest either of such limitations.

The Examiner rejected claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over Hill in view of U.S. Patent Serial Number 6,061,025 (“Jackson”). Claim 13 depends from claim 1 and therefore includes the limitation “wherein said planar conductor is self-supporting”. Neither Hill nor Jackson discloses or suggests such limitation.

The Examiner rejected claims 15-17 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over Hill in view of Johansson et al. Claims 15-17 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1 and therefore include the limitation “wherein said planar conductor is self-supporting”. Neither Hill nor Johansson discloses or suggests such limitation.

The Examiner rejected claims 22-23 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over Hill in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication Number 2003/0210188 (“Hebron et al.”). Claims 22-23 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1 and therefore include the limitation “wherein said planar conductor is self-supporting”. Neither Hill nor Hebron et al. discloses or suggests such limitation.

For the reasons set forth above, the applicants believe that claims 1-27 are allowable over the prior art of record and request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued.

Respectfully Submitted,

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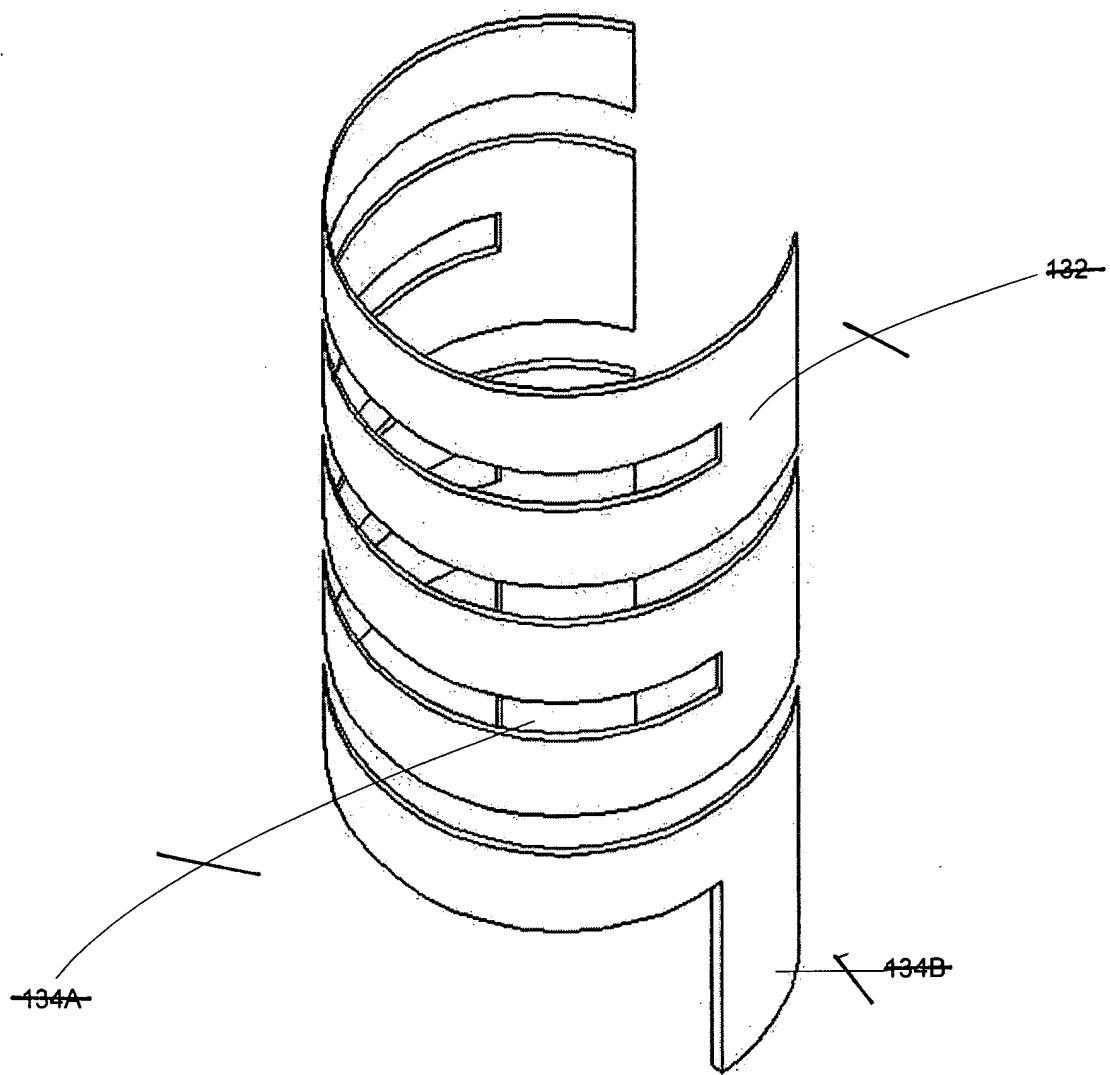


Figure 1B

10/12

610

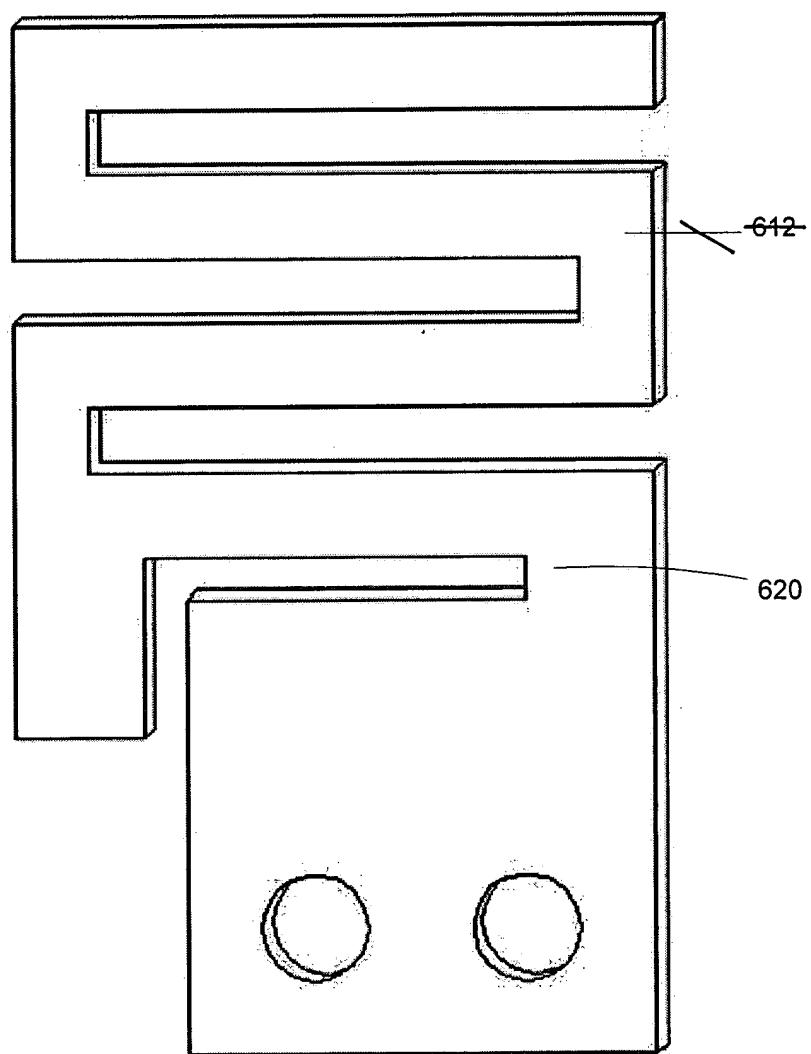


Figure 6A

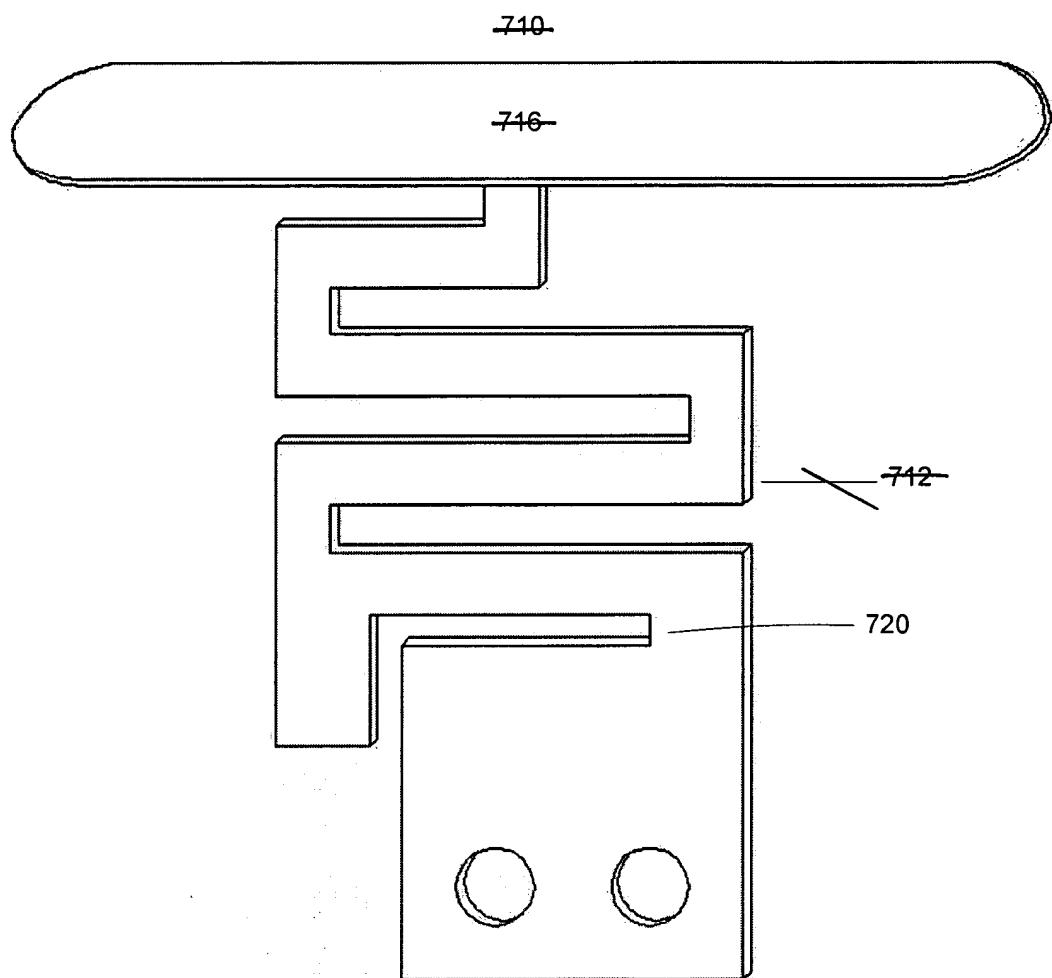


Figure 6B

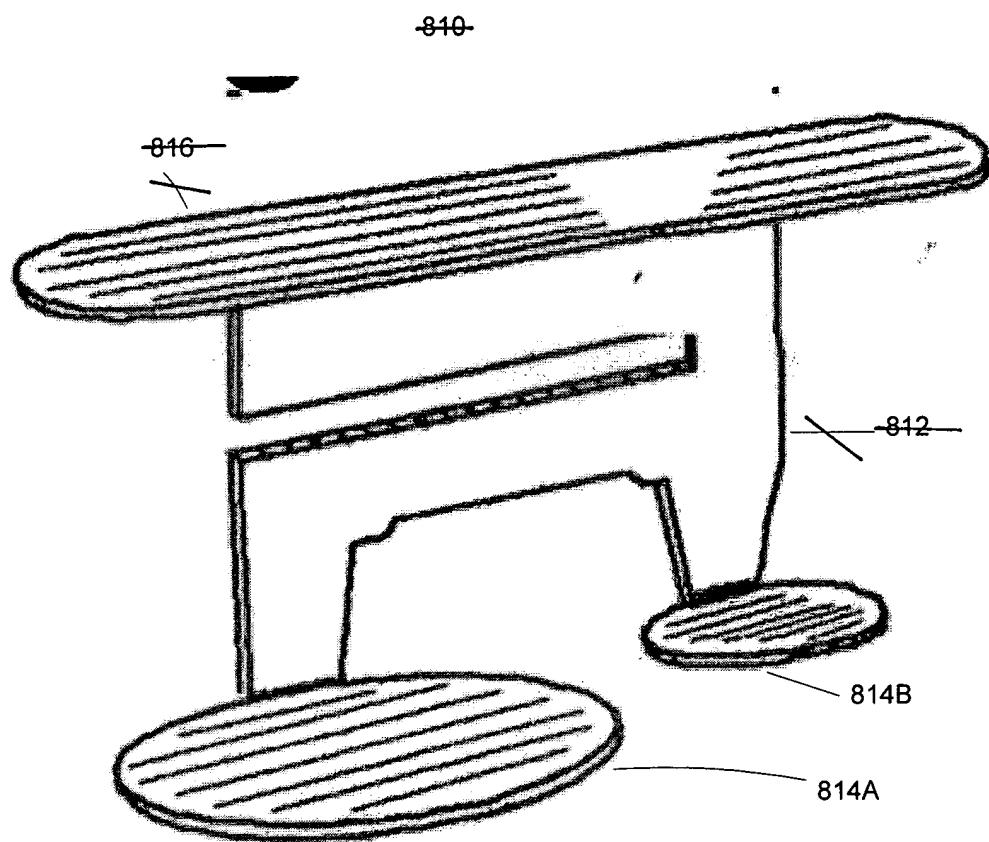


Figure 6C